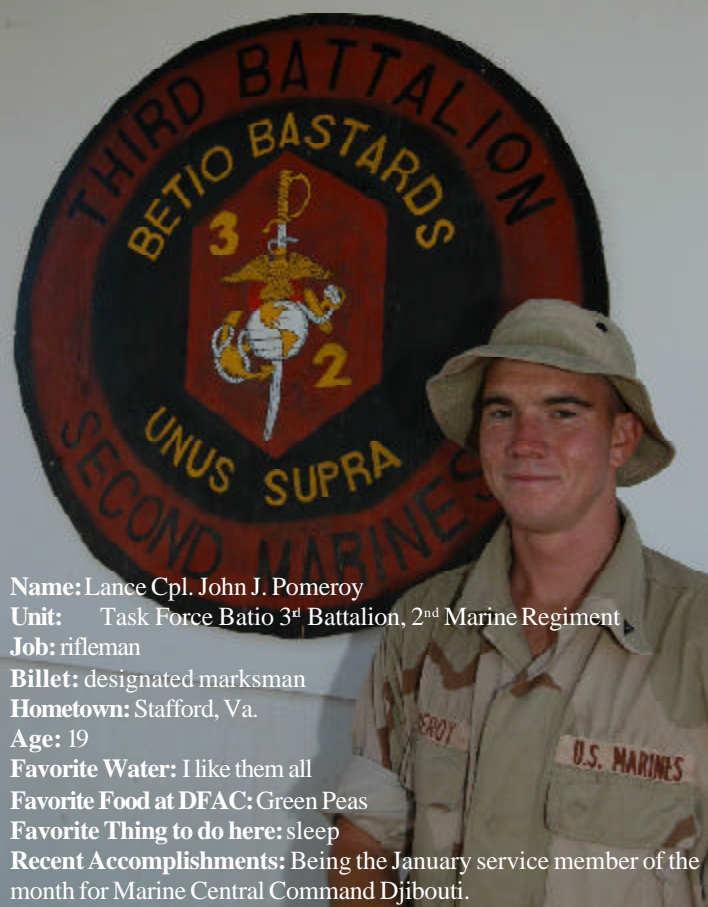


Troops of the Week



Name: Lance Cpl. John J. Pomeroy
Unit: Task Force Batio 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment
Job: rifleman
Billet: designated marksman
Hometown: Stafford, Va.
Age: 19
Favorite Water: I like them all
Favorite Food at DFAC: Green Peas
Favorite Thing to do here: sleep
Recent Accomplishments: Being the January service member of the month for Marine Central Command Djibouti.

Lance Cpl. Pomeroy joined the Marine Corps following in his father's footsteps soon after graduating from Brooke Point High School in Stafford, Va. At the age of 18, the thought of joining the Marine Corps was not anything new. Coming from a Marine family with his father, and two uncles spending time in the Marine Corp, the decision was easy. On July 15, 2002, he went to recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island. Upon completion of boot camp, Pomeroy attended the Infantry Training Battalion, School of Infantry at Camp Geiger, N.C. Pomeroy, along with his peers, went through an accelerated training schedule to arrive at his first unit on January 9, 2003, attached to I Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment. Three days after arriving, he was on his way from Camp Lejeune, N.C., to Iraq.

"It was a really long boat ride to get over there, so we had plenty of time to get more training," said Pomeroy.

After floating on a ship for over a month, Pomeroy spent time in Iraq and Kuwait as a rifleman supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. On June 22, 2003, Pomeroy returned to Camp Lejeune to continue training as a rifleman. It was then he participated in a course and became a designated marksman, a billet only a few hold in an infantry company. In early November, he arrived in Djibouti, Africa, supporting Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa by providing base security.

"I love the base here, there's so much to do," said Pomeroy.

Pomeroy and the rest of his company is preparing to return to Camp Lejeune since their replacements, K Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marines, have arrived.

Pomeroy supplied one word of advice to his successors, "Don't buy every DVD and make sure to hit the gym."

Camp Lemonier's Black History Month

Black History Month celebration, lectures, music, dance, performances, and other celebratory events are among the highlights of Camp Lemonier's month-long observance of Black History Month (BHM) during February 1-17. The U.S. Embassy's Djiboutian Black History Month Group will conduct events from Feb. 18-28.

Tuesday

Black History lectures given by selected guest speakers. Topics TBA.

Chapel, Camp Lemonier

2:00 p.m.

Friday

Visit Girls' Orphanage

BHM Committee members will entertain girls with poetry, music, and songs. Girls will learn song/dance from the African-American culture.

Girls Orphanage

4:00 P.M.

Saturday

Saturday Soul food Sampler

This is an African-American tradition you don't want to miss! Please join the BHM Committee as they provide tasteful samplers of soul food.

Camp Lemonier, Bldg 212

5:30 P.M.

Feb. 17

African-American Movie Night

The movie "Separate but Equal" starring Sidney Poitier. This true story of Thurgood Marshall (the first African-American appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court) and his involvements behind the most important legal battle of our time "Brown vs. The Board of Education."



Africa dancers perform a traditional dance during the opening of the Black History Month Celebrations at the Sheraton in Djibouti Feb. 4.